



# AMETHYST PRINCESS OF GEMWORLD

75¢  
14  
APR. 86  
APPROVED  
BY THE  
COMICS  
CODE  
CARTOON  
AUTHORITY

## GUESS WHO'S BACK?



HUDSON, NEW YORK:



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WHEN SHE COULD SEE, THE  
COLORS OF A MAGICAL  
PORTAL USED TO REMIND  
HER OF CRAYOLAS, THE  
BIG BOX, THE ONE WITH  
THE SHARPENER ON THE  
SIDE.

WHEN SHE COULD SEE.

IT'S SO MUCH HARDER  
GOING BY SOUND WHEN  
CREATING A MAGICAL  
PORTAL. TINKLE OF  
CRYSTAL ANIMALS  
AGAINST A GLASS  
TABLE TOP, RUSTY  
SQUEAK OF A DOOR  
HINGE, JANGLE OF  
WIND CHIMES AND...  
AND... A BABY'S  
RATTLE?

SO MANY NOISES MIXED  
TOGETHER, SO HARD TO  
TELL THEM APART. WAS  
IT LIKE THE RATTLE OF  
A NEW YEAR'S EVE  
NOISEMAKER?

(OR WAS IT... A  
RATTLESNAKE?)

## AMETHYST PRINCESS OF GEMWORLD

# INNER SANCTUM



OUCH.

HAVEN'T FELT THIS STRANGE SINCE I WAS THREE YEARS OLD AND STUCK MY BARRETTE INTO AN ELECTRICAL WALL OUTLET. AT LEAST BACK THEN MOM WAS AROUND TO COMFORT ME.

CAW!

OH, NO! -- A BIRD SQUAWK. THAT MUST MEAN I'M STILL OUTSIDE. HOPE NO ONE CAN SEE ME LIKE THIS.

GOSH, THIS IS COMPLETELY HOPELESS! HOW CAN I CREATE A PORTAL TO CITRINA'S CHAMBER WHEN I CAN'T SEE TO GET THE HAND GESTURES RIGHT?

BUT YOU'VE DONE IT, PRINCESS! YOU'RE IN CITRINA'S CHAMBERS NOW!

YES, YOU'RE RIGHT. I CAN STILL FEEL CITRINA'S MYSTIC ENERGIES. IT'S SUCH A STRANGE SENSATION, LIKE SMELLING SOMEONE'S PERFUME AFTER THEY'VE LEFT A ROOM, ONLY IN MY MIND INSTEAD OF MY NOSE.

YEAH. WELL, CONGRATULATIONS, ANYWAY, PRINCESS. YOU'VE DONE IT.

YOUR VOICE SOUNDS FAMILIAR. HAVE WE MET BEFORE?

NAW. I'M ONLY CAW!

WHW! THIS IS TERRIBLE! I MUST BE WORSE OFF THAN I THOUGHT. NOW I'M HEARING TALKING CROWS.

IF I'M IN CITRINA'S CHAMBERS, I CAN FIND HER SCROLLS--

-- AND THEY CONTAIN A COMPLETE RECORD OF ALL MYSTICAL KNOWLEDGE. THERE HAS TO BE A SPELL SOMEWHERE HERE THAT WILL RESTORE MY EYESIGHT!

HAVE TO GET MY HEAD STRAIGHT... THINK.

ALL I HAVE TO DO IS  
READ THROUGH EVERY  
SCROLL UNTIL I COME  
ACROSS THE RIGHT  
SPELL.

EXCEPT THAT I CAN'T  
READ THEM, BECAUSE  
I'M BLIND.

THESE SCROLLS ARE  
USELESS TO ME.



IT'S ALL USELESS. ALL  
CITRINA'S FAULT! SHE  
SHOULD HAVE TOLD ME  
THE TRUTH FROM THE  
BEGINNING.

TOLD ME THAT MY FATHER  
WAS ONE OF THE POWERFUL  
BEINGS KNOWN AS LORDS  
OF ORDER. TOLD ME THAT  
I WAS ONE, TOO!

I KNOW SHE WAS JUST  
TRYING TO PROTECT ME.  
BUT WHO'S GOING TO  
PROTECT ME NOW?



NOT YOU,  
CITRINA!

NOW YOU'RE  
GONE AND I'M ON  
MY OWN, AND  
I DON'T NEED  
ANY OF YOUR  
COSMIC JUNK--

UNHAND ME,  
DAUGHTER



YOU...SPONE?  
AND YOU  
CALLED ME...  
DAUGHTER?

THAT WAS  
PRESUMPTUOUS OF  
ME, AMETHYST. I GREW  
SO ATTACHED TO YOUR  
FATHER, PANTAGONES,  
THAT I OFTEN THINK  
OF MYSELF AS PART  
OF THE FAMILY.

YOU WOULDN'T KNOW IT TO LOOK AT  
ME NOW, BUT I WAS ONCE THE  
SPARKLING CRYSTAL BALL THROUGH  
WHICH PANTAGONES MONITORED HIS  
REALM. NOW YOU, AMETHYST, ARE  
THE LIVING EMBODIMENT OF  
THAT REALM. YOU ARE THE  
HEART OF THE GEMWORLD.

NO! FIRST A TALKING CROW  
AND NOW THIS! IT'S SOME  
KIND OF TRICK.

YOU KNOW BETTER,  
PRINCESS. EVERYTHING  
IS ALIVE ON THE  
GEMWORLD.

WHY DO YOU THINK THE  
CHAIRS AND TREES AND  
HOUSES HAVE FACES  
HERE? WE ALL LIVE.  
WE ARE ALL YOUR  
LOYAL SUBJECTS...  
AND YOUR DEAREST  
FRIENDS.

THEN IF WHAT YOU'RE  
SAYING IS TRUE, I'M  
SURROUNDED BY ALLIES...  
YOU, THE CROW, THE  
STATUES, WALLS, COLUMNS,  
AND PILLARS OF THIS  
CASTLE. YOU COULD  
ALL BE MY EYES.

YET IT  
ALL SEEMS SO  
INcredible. IF  
ONLY THERE WAS  
SOME WAY I COULD  
PUT IT TO A  
TEST...

OPEN PLEASE,  
WINDOW.

BAM!

YES,  
MISTRESS.

YOU SEE,  
PRINCESS? CARRY  
ME TO THE GILL AND I  
WILL DESCRIBE TO YOU  
WHAT I SEE. JUST AS I  
ONCE SHOWED YOUR FATHER  
THE FACES OF DANGER.

I'M SO  
TIRED AND CONFUSED.  
GUESS I'VE NO CHOICE  
BUT TO BELIEVE YOU.

TELL ME, THEN,  
AND DON'T HOLD  
ANYTHING BACK.  
IT'S BAD,  
ISN'T IT?

VERY  
BAD, PRINCESS. BLACK  
THUNDERHEADS GATHER FORCE  
ACROSS THE KINGDOM, THE  
TREES BEND TO THE GROUND AND  
THE RIVERS RUN BACKWARDS.  
IT IS A MYSTICAL STORM,  
THE WORST IN MEMORY.

HUDSON,  
NEW YORK:

THAT STUPID  
CAB DRIVER  
SURE GAVE ME A  
HARD TIME. WHAT  
DOES HE THINK I AM,  
A LITTLE KID...  
OR SOMETHING?

HMM. IT'S  
WEIRD BEING  
OUT THIS LATE AT  
NIGHT ALL BY  
MYSELF.

THAT'S FUNNY, TAFFY.  
WHERE'S RITA GOING  
AT THIS HOUR?

OH, SHE'S  
GOING TO  
CARL'S.

I HAVE A  
FEELING  
SOMETHING'S  
WRONG OVER  
THERE, TAFFY.  
I WISH  
AMY WAS  
BACK FROM THE  
GEMWORLD!

CARL'S GONNA BE REAL  
SURPRISED TO SEE ME.  
I DON'T EVEN  
KNOW WHY I  
CAME, JUST A  
FEELING,  
I GUESS.  
LIKE MY  
LIFE IS  
ABOUT TO  
REALLY CHANGE.

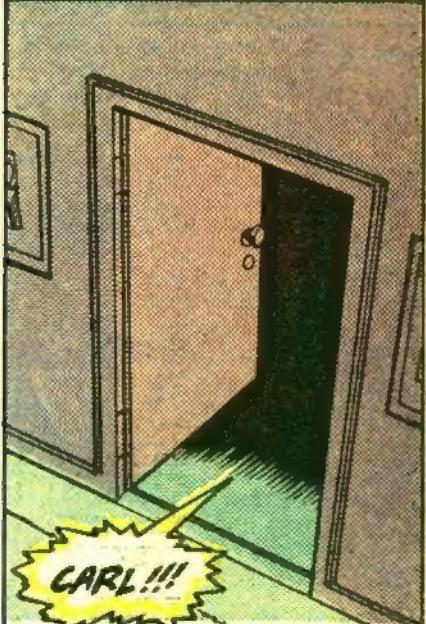
HEY, CARL?

CARL, YOU  
HOME?

CARL, HOW--HOW COME  
YOUR LIGHTS AREN'T  
WORKING?

CARL?

CLICK  
CLICK  
CLICK



AND BACK ON  
THE GEMMORLD...

THIS IS ALL SO NEW  
TO ME. WHY DOES THIS  
TERRIBLE STORM HAVE  
TO COME NOW, JUST  
WHEN I'M TRYING TO  
ADJUST TO ALL OF  
THESE CHANGES IN  
MY LIFE?

PERHAPS I  
MIGHT BE OF  
ASSISTANCE,  
PRINCESS  
AMETHYST?

I WAS WONDERING  
WHEN YOU WERE  
GOING TO SPEAK UP.  
WHO ARE YOU?

LORD  
DIAMOND,  
THE PRIEST,  
MY LADY.

NO OFFENSE,  
DIAMOND, BUT I  
DON'T THINK I  
NEED A PRIEST  
YET.

NOR AM I HERE AS  
ONE, PRINCESS  
AMETHYST.

YOU SEE, I AM  
ALSO BLIND.

I CAME AS  
SOON AS I HEARD  
OF YOUR PLIGHT.

OH.

HOWEVER, MY MORE IMMEDIATE  
PURPOSE IS TO REQUEST YOUR  
PRESENCE AT A WAR COUNCIL  
NOW CONVENING IN ANOTHER  
PART OF THIS CASTLE. WILL  
YOU ATTEND?

OF COURSE. IT'S MY  
DUTY TO BE THERE,  
JUST AS IT WAS MY  
FATHER'S BEFORE  
ME.

I THINK, DIAMOND, THAT  
SOME OF HIS SPIRIT  
STILL RESTS WITHIN THIS  
FITTED ORB.

YES,  
IT IS  
EVIDENT.

WELL, LET'S NOT KEEP THE OTHERS WAITING. DO YOU WANT TO LEAD ME OR SHALL I LEAD YOU?



I AM PLEASED THAT YOU HAVE RETAINED YOUR SENSE OF HUMOR IN THE FACE OF SUCH ADVERSITY, PRINCESS AMETHYST. I WOULD BE HONORED TO WALK AT YOUR SIDE.



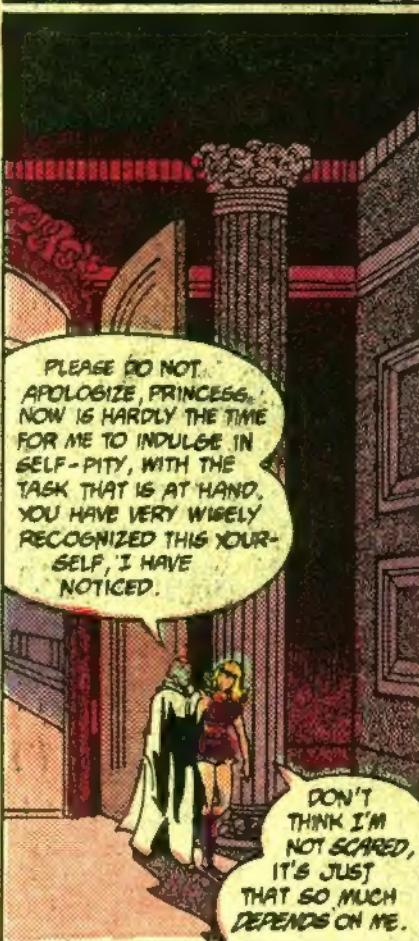
THANKS, I NEED ALL THE ENCOURAGEMENT I CAN GET.



-ALWAYS BLIND. IT IS SOMETHING I PREFER NOT TO SPEAK OF.



I'M SORRY. I SHOULDN'T HAVE --



DON'T THINK I'M NOT SCARED, IT'S JUST THAT SO MUCH DEPENDS ON ME.





GIVE THE ORDER  
LORD GARNET AND  
I'LL BUTCHER THIS  
BEAST ON THE SPOT!

BUT FIRST LORDS AND  
LADIES, I ADVISE YOU ALL  
TO STEP WELL BACK AS I MAKE  
READY TO PUNCTURE THIS  
ODIOUS CREATURE!

AH-HEE!  
AH-NAH-THUST!!



AT THAT MOMENT, ON THE  
FARTHEST EDGE OF THE  
GEMWORLD, A CRUEL MOON...

...AN OPEN PLAIN...

...VOICES ECHOING  
THROUGH THE NIGHT...

...AND DEATH! I  
AM TELLING YOU, IT  
COMES FOR US!  
WE CANNOT  
ESCAPE IT!

THERE MUST BE A  
WAY OUT. WE ARE THE  
ANCIENT ONES!  
WE HOLD GREAT  
POWER!

NO, HE IS  
RIGHT.  
WE ARE  
DOOMED!

YOU BE  
DOOMED!  
I WILL  
FIGHT TO  
MY LAST  
BREATH  
IF IT—

OH, M-M-MASTER!  
WE HAVE FOUND  
YOU, AT LAST!

QUIET,  
YOU FOOL!  
HE'S HERE!

WE SING  
YOUR  
PRAISES!

BLESS YOU,  
O HOLY ONE!

WE  
SURRENDER  
OUR LIVES INTO  
YOUR TENDER  
HANDS!



YOU ARE ALL  
DAMNED!!!



FOR FAILING TO  
PREPARE THE WAY FOR  
THE FORCES OF CHAOS,  
YOU HAVE FORFEITED  
YOUR CLAIM ON THE  
GEMWORLD.



OH, FORGIVE  
US, GOOD LORD  
FORGIVE US  
OUR --



WHERE VOICES ECHOED,  
THERE IS NOW A HUSH ...

... A CRYSTAL SAYS ...

... AN OPEN PLAIN ...



... AND THE ANCIENT ONES  
HAVE BEEN WIRED OFF THE  
FACE OF THE GEMWORLD ...

... FOREVER!

AND AT CASTLE  
AVENUE...  
...

CAREFUL, AN'E-HYET  
THIS COULD BE A  
TRICK, I DON T  
TRUST HIM.

CARNELIAN  
CAN YOU TELL  
US WHAT  
H-HAPPENED  
TO YOU?

WHAT DID-  
DEE ON MEE.

"BROACH IS ALL DARG  
O-BAL, MY FAH-DER,  
LEAB BEHINE WHEN  
HE KILD.

"IN DEW YORK, AS  
COLL, I FINE DIT.

"NEED IT.

"BUD INSTEAD,  
IT NEED ME!

"I DOAN KNOW, BUD  
IT IS EE-BIL!

"IT IS ALIBI!"

"AN IT IS...  
MON-GREE!!

**EEA GH**



IT DID DIG TO SEE AN' SOMEHOW  
BROAD MEE HERE. ALL I WAN-NED  
WAS MAGICAL BOIVERS LI' LE YOU!  
I JUS WAN-NED TO BE  
LIGE YOU!!

WHAT A  
TALE! MY  
HEART IS  
BREAKING!

WHO DOES  
HE THINK HE IS  
DEAL'NG  
WITH?

I'M  
SICK OF THE  
SIGHT OF HIM.

I SAY WE  
KILL HIM!

YES! YES!  
LET'S  
KILL HIM!!!

YOU'D  
BEST  
HURRY,  
BEFORE  
HE DIES  
ON HIS  
OWN.

OH!  
OH!!!

THIS WON'T  
TAKE LONG.

I CLAIM  
THE HEAD.

YOU CAN HAVE  
IT AFTER I...  
HACK IT OFF!

FOOL!!



It is becoming evident why we keep all the members of our Production Department in one large room. That way, we only have to lock one door to prevent them from escaping. Believe me, there are times when I think that's just what we should do. Take Friday, October 18, for example.



Bob Rosakis and his many crew played host to Loud Shirt Day! No, that's not exactly right. Bob's memo to the staff called it **LOUD SHIRT DAY!!** The idea was to hold a contest to see just who had the loudest shirt hidden away in his or her closet. "You know the shirt," Bob's memo told us. "The one your great Aunt Mildred sent you right after she went blind!" The memo included a coupon to be returned to Bob, indicating whether you wanted to enter the competition or be one of the judges. ("Please check one: \_\_\_ Boy, have I got a shirt for you! \_\_\_ I've got my sunglasses; make me a judge.") And despite the fact that all of the crazy events Bob and company have hosted have included a pizza pie lunch, Bob decided to have a referendum to see whether or not they could feature fried chicken as the main course.



As it turned out, about a dozen DCers entered the competition, and

another dozen volunteered to risk permanent eye damage by judging the shirts. (The pizza lovers outnumbered the chicken-eaters, too.) Twelve judges were too many, Bob decided. "This is a contest, not a jury trial!" So he put the names of the volunteers into a hat and had company President and Publisher (and head judge!) Jenette Kahn pull the names of four out to determine the rest of the judging committee. Circulation Vice President Ed Shukin, Production Artists Albert DeGusman and Lisa Sealedine, and Promotions Manager Linda Robak were the names selected.



After contestants, judges, and audience devoured upwards of eight pizzas (all coordinated and catered by Production's own Helen Vesik, who also collects the virtual tons of empty soda cans we produce and redeems them to pay for "Chips 'n' Dip Parties" that regularly occur in the department), it was time for the competition to begin. Bob Rosakis removed himself from the judging, though his yellow-and-orange shirt would certainly have garnered a prize ("I'd feel funny winning a contest that I'm running," Bob explained.) But there were still quite a number of worthy shirts. First-prize winner Todd Klein's shirt was described as "the most hideous thing I have ever seen!" Others, like those worn by Robyn McBryde of Licensing and Graphic Designer Julia Schick, were manufactured for the event. Robyn's

included a tape player inside which played loud music, and Julie's featured the word "LOUD" in all colors and sizes! Others ranged from V.P./Creative Director Joe Orlando's striped shirt ("It looks great from a distance, but look at it up close!") to editor Len Wein's pink-and-green Hawaiian monstrosity. ("Yeah, Len's was pretty bad, but he wears it all the time, so why give him a prize?")



And just what were the prizes? Todd received a hand-made LOUD tie, sewn by Laurie Rosakis (wife of Guess Who?) from fabric that was originally Superman/Batman curtains. "Not only is it loud, it's appropriate," said one of the judges. And Robyn and Julie split the second and third prizes: a LOUD record ("by a group so bad the record company v.p. who signed them got fired the next day"), donated by the business department's Robin Phelps, and a lunch with a loudmouth. ("Julie Schwartz volunteered, no, DEMANDED that he be the loudmouth," explained Rosakis.) Asked just how they would split the two prizes, it was suggested that Julie and Robyn could each have one side of the record and then each eat half a sandwich. "And listen to Julie with only one ear," laughed McBryde.



As the crowd wandered out of the Production Department at the end of the festivities, someone asked Bob what he was going to do next. After all, his crew has already had a mock wedding, a retirement party fifty years early, a softball pep rally, and no-reason-at-all pizza parties. Bob just smiled and walked away, but I'd swear I heard him muttering something about a senior prom.

Thank You and Good Afternoon.

Dick

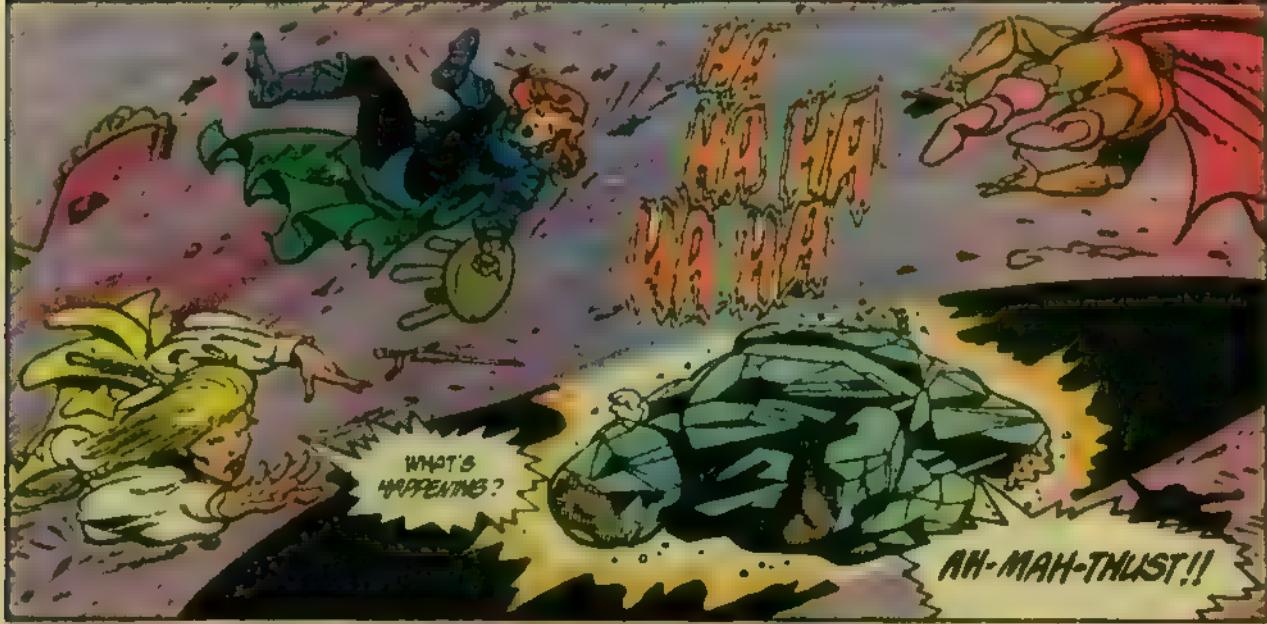
P.S. Bet you're wondering how we get any work done with things like "LOUD SHIRT DAY" and the like! I wonder, too...

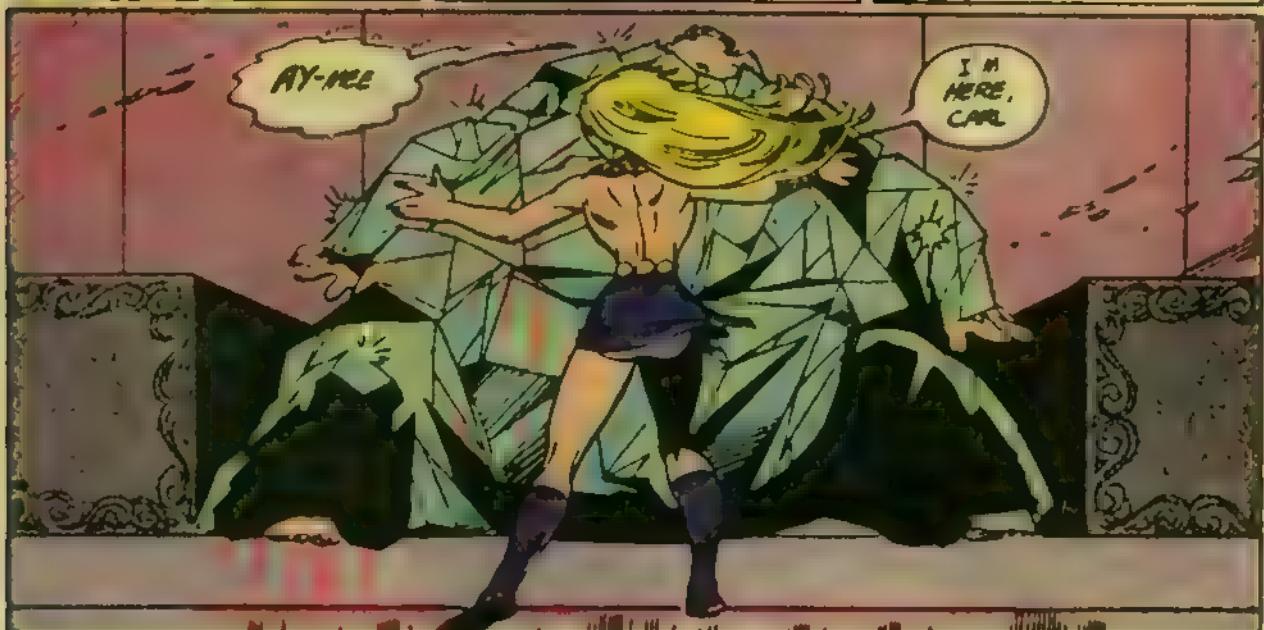
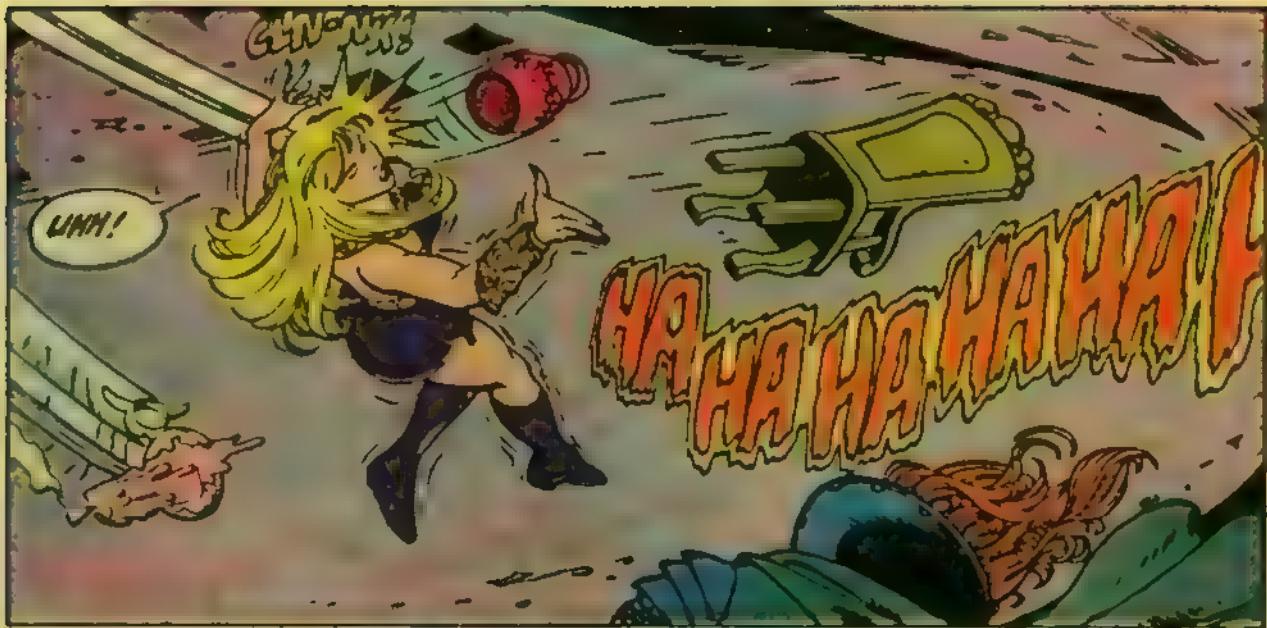


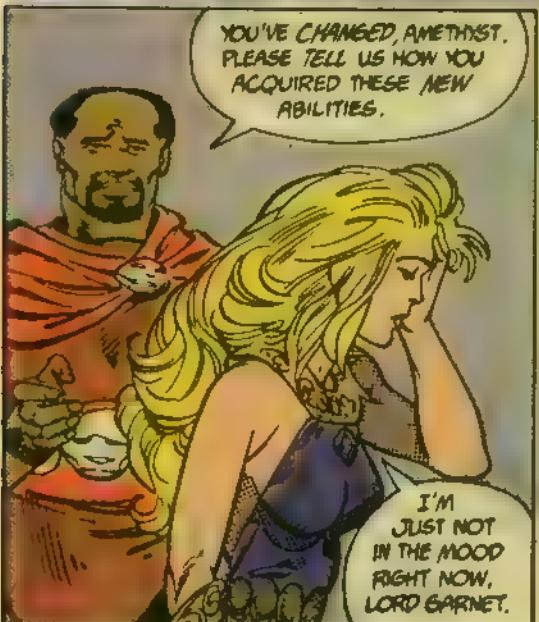
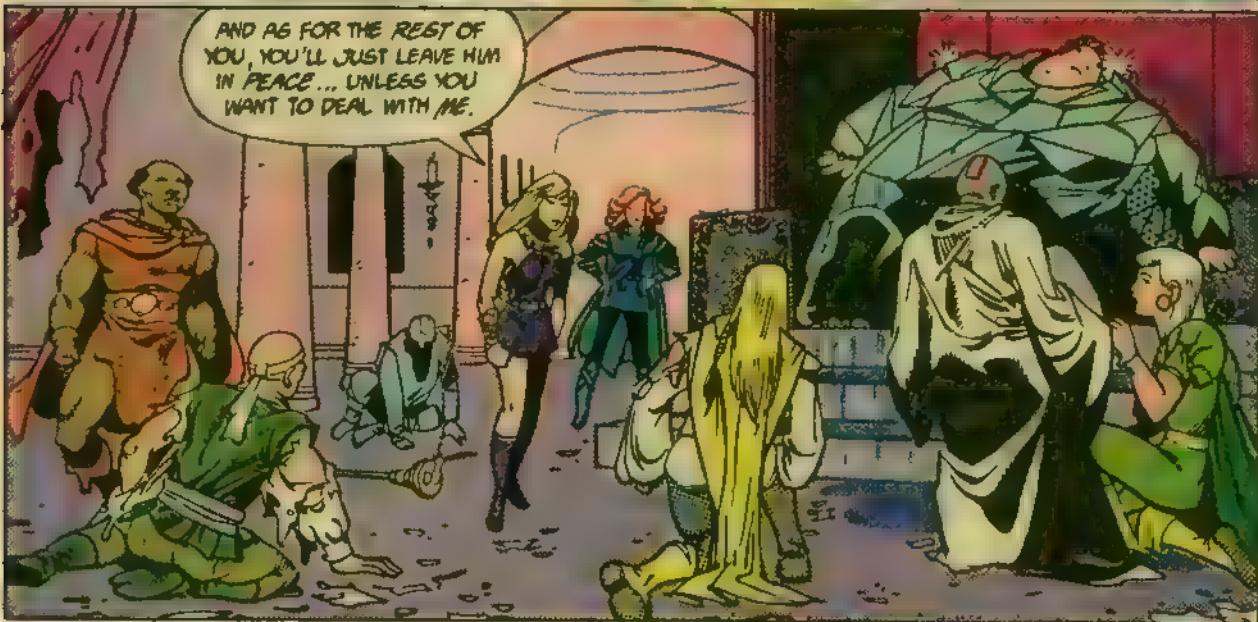
**□ Batman 394:** The conclusion of Batman vs. the Cossack on the streets of Gotham!

- **Superman 418:** A special story—The Replacement!
- **Star Trek 29:** Ajit on one side, Grand on the other—what's a starship captain to do?
- **Amethyst 14:** Amethyst's teachings begin as Carnelian returns to Gemworld!
- **Aquaman 3:** Ocean Master gains the upper hand, plus Aquaman's origin!
- **Secret Origins 1:** An all-new

- retelling of the Superman story!
- **Mazing Man 4:** Guido has a new Trans-Am! Life has meaning at last!
- **Elvira's House of Mystery™ 2:** She's back with all-new terror tales!
- **Omega Men 37:** On Kuraq, a plague of two-dimensional killers!
- **Legion of Super-Heroes 21:** The mystery of Sensor Girl, plus a Quisite solo story!
- **Shadow of the Batman 3:** The last issue presents the threat of Clayface!







ALLOW ME TO APOLOGIZE  
ON BEHALF OF MYSELF AND  
THE OTHERS, AMETHYST.  
OUR BEHAVIOR HAS  
INEVITABLE.

THE MYSTICAL STORM  
THAT APPROACHES, WHICH  
WE CALL THE BLIGHTING,  
HAS PUT US ALL UNDER  
A GREAT STRAIN.

IT'S OKAY.  
JUST LEAVE  
ME ALONE.

BUT THAT'S REALLY WHY WE GATHERED  
HERE IN THE FIRST PLACE, AMETHYST.  
TO ASK YOUR ADVICE ABOUT THE  
BLIGHTING.

CAN'T YOU SEE THAT SHE  
WANTS A FEW MINUTES TO  
HERSELF TOPAZ? WHY  
DON'T YOU TRY TO SOLVE  
A PROBLEM ON YOUR  
OWN FOR A CHANGE?

BUT I WAS  
ONLY... THAT  
IS, I WAS JUST...

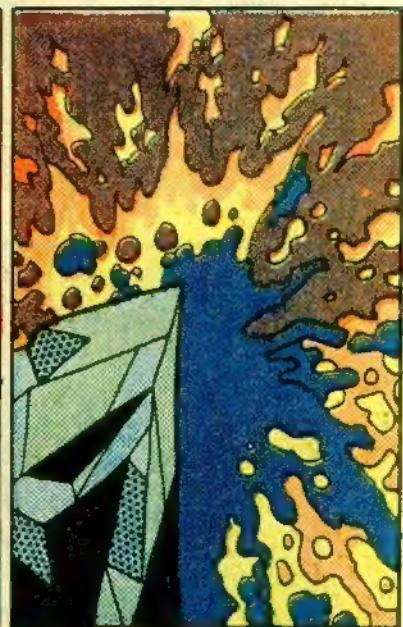
PAY NO ATTENTION TO THOSE  
MEN, PRINCESS. THEY'RE  
ALL HELPLESS WITHOUT  
A WOMAN TO TELL THEM  
WHAT TO DO.

THAT'S  
JUST WHAT MY MOM  
USED TO SAY.

HMPH.

EEAHH

CARL?



**WELCOME  
ME HOME!!**

**NEXT ISSUE**  
**THE BLIGHTING**  
**OF GEMWORLD, PART 2:**  
**THE DESTRUCTION OF**  
**CASTLE AMETHYST?**

# Purple Praise



Hi, Karen!

To be honest, I never expected to see you over here in *AMETHYST*. Sure, I'm a faithful monthly reader, but previously, I never encountered a "special" enough issue. *AMETHYST* is highly enjoyable, but not near the top of my favorite's list.

Then number 10 came along (actually, I had to go get it). "Blackout" left me with so many mixed emotions and various feelings that I had to write someone!

I'm a serious guy. I don't know why I look for serious, dramatic stories in *AMETHYST*, but I thought the Ancient Ones were going to cause the Gemworld's personal Crisis (would've been a great tie-in). I was prepared for a real, serious story, largely because of last issue's buildup. I wasn't disappointed, and I'm growing used to those magical, lighthearted storytelling devices. Hey, a guy can't be serious all the time.

But on the serious side, though, I noticed a tighter, more defined scripting style in #10. It works, but I don't want to see Dan Mishkin depart. Lemme guess, he was working on JLA Annual #3, right? Gary Cohn's solo provided a minimum of filler while still respecting characterization and action. The Ancient Ones were committed to destroying the Gemworld and that's exactly what they tried to do! No more prophecies to be fulfilled, no more special circumstances to wait for. Amethyst was defeated and the Gemworld was in darkness by page four. Realism.

I think Prince Garnet is one of the best-characterized people in the Gemworld. More interesting than his pop, more "down to earth" than Topaz, he would've made an interesting love interest for Amethyst. I'm sorry, but Topaz is too ... bland for Amy.

This issue was also perfectly synthesized because we saw major events happening on the Gemworld and Earth. Carl is one of my favorites here. He's not only smart, conniving, and devious, he's got a great Earth name! And now he's got Dark Opal's steed. Let's see him get back to the Gemworld, and take Rita, too. (Always wondered how a magicless earthling would fare there. Rita would make an interesting Gemworld subject).

Poor Herb and Marion. Now, their mailman's barber must know about the Gemworld! This Gina Tonelli is definitely trouble, but how can Herb afford to ignore her ... uh, advances? Maybe she knows of a way to keep Amy on earth (the comic would only be one-third as

interesting, I'll bet).

The heroes' layover in Amy's room once again let us know how difficult this is for the Winston family. Page 16, panel 4, was especially effective in illustrating Marion's inability to cope with the actions of her "unique" daughter.

Remember those lighthearted, magical storytelling devices I mentioned? The sun giving Amethyst the secret to defeating the Ancient Ones was one of them, kind of silly to a serious guy like me. I would rather she had figured it out for herself. Finally, I thought a threat this grave would take more than one issue. But the issue it took was extremely well done.

Carleton K. Brown  
104 Cornell Street  
Springfield, MA

*Dan Mishkin and Gary Cohn, Amethyst's much loved and much missed daddies, who created so many wonderful characters, concepts, and heartfelt stories, chose to let their princess evolve under another regime. Carleton, so they could be free to forge ahead to different creative endeavors themselves. Dan and Gary will always be a part of this series in spirit, and we know for sure that Amethyst will forever hold a special place in their hearts.*

*And some of those magical, lighthearted story devices that you're so fond of will still be existent in *AMETHYST*, under the helm of a new plotter Keith Giffen, but as already evidenced, a direction consisting of suspenseful, mysterious, hard-core action will be more extremely prevalent in the series.*

\*\*\*\*\*

Dear Ms. Berger,

It is very good to see Ernie Colón back as the *AMETHYST* artist. With the likes of Karl Kesel, he looked better in issue 10 than in the original series. The return of Colón seems to have had a synergistic effect on the writing as well. The scripting on the last few issues has been well above the standard of the early issues of the second series.

I don't particularly like "Max" as a name for Amethyst's steed. I don't know why, but I somehow always thought her pegacorn was a mare. Oh, well.

One thing I enjoyed about issue 10 was that the creative team finally seems to be beginning to deal with the psychological and physical difference between the thirteen-year-old Amy Winston and the twenty-year-old Princess Amethyst. Until a final resolution between Amy's life on Earth vs. Gemworld (which must

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inevitably happen: Amy/Amethyst can't do justice to either of her lives on half time), the differing age factor is going to pose interesting problems. No matter how normal and well adjusted one is, that kind of repeated change is going to do weird things to one's mind. Perhaps Amy's mother, a child psychologist, might think of and worry about the effect that the age shifts could have on Amy.

Incidentally, Prince Topaz's reaction to his first sight of the thirteen-year-old Amy Winston was wonderful. This will no doubt have interesting effects on what you described as "comics' hottest love triangle." Whatever its resolution, I hope to see Lady Turquoise and Prince Topaz as Amethyst's companions for a long time to come.

One other thing. It looks like Dark Opal will be back in the near future. If so, he's sure to be surprised by Amethyst's new powers.

Keep up the excellence.

James Carl Henderson  
2800 Wind River Circle  
Apt. 108  
Ft. Worth, TX 76116

*If the last page of this issue's story isn't an indication that Dark Opal's back, I don't know what is. James! But don't get too comfortable with the concept, for the dark Lord's future role will be entirely different than before!*

\*\*\*\*\*

Dear Everybody:

Thoughts and comments on issue #10, "Blackout." I knew when I saw the cover I was in for a treat! I'm so glad Ernie has decided to stick around for awhile. Amethyst literally leaps to life under his pencil. Let's not forget Karl Kesel—once I saw his work in *TALES OF THE LEGION*, I knew we had a perfect match. Keep it up!

As for the tempestuous love triangle developing, why haven't we seen the obvious? Prince Garnet obviously shares a similar experience of belonging to two "worlds" as Amy/Amethyst does, so I would think that a relationship on their part would not be hampered by the dropping in and out that has obviously gotten Topaz all out of whack. Get my drift?

Hmm ... this little subplot with Mr. Winston and said Gina Tonelli looks interesting. I had always suspected that perhaps a few people decided to pass up the Great Migration for any one of dozens of personal reasons. Now ... we shall see?

Loved the scene of Amethyst and cohorts "dropping in" to Amy's room. I have a hard enough time explaining three hundred horse figurines to anyone who drops in, but to have people dropping in out of nowhere... I'd have a hard enough time as is!

Pooh Prince Garnet... from "Harbinger of Doom" to "Rent Collector." Come to think of it, there really isn't that much difference between the two.

Somehow, if I had a friend who told me that they built their whole in the basement, I'd show a little more astonishment than Rita did. After all, it's not like you can go to the local hobby shop and buy a "Build-an-Uncle" Kit! But I suppose she'll have plenty of opportunity to be amazed in the near future.

Now, we all pretty much know what the twelve major gemhouses are, but shouldn't there be many lesser ones as well? Look at all the gemstones we've given no account to—pearl, agate, jasper, coral, peridot, lapis lazuli, onyx, etc. Since there have always been minor kingdoms and principalities in Europe existing side by side with the major ones, I don't see how the Gemworld could be an exception to the rule. I also like to see a little more involvement with the "common-folk" of both Gemworld and Earth. After all, everyone can't be a part of the ruling class (no matter how much we try). Amy Winston, for example, is pretty much a mystery to us. Just what are her other interests, besides ruling over a magic kingdom? What do her other friends and acquaintances think of her, etc.?

Well, enough questions for now. Keep busy!

Always,

Andrea Gurdon  
11215 Wealthy Lane  
Romeo, MI

Many of our readers seem to be in favor of a romance between Amethyst and Prince Garnet, Andrea. But now that the princess' faithful friend is out of the picture for the moment, we'll have to put that notion on hold. As for finding more about Amy's life on Earth, next issue will lead right into a story dealing with her and the entire Winston family in some very different predicaments.

And by the way, Andrea, love your address!

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Dear Karen:

What can I say about AMETHYST #10? A lot!

First of all we have the cover. Utterly magnificent! It caught my eye from the beginning. It stood out among all the other covers on the stand at the local comic book store. I think it is the most magnificent cover that has ever graced the book of AMETHYST. Purple on black. It makes a statement. A powerful statement. I bought another copy of issue #10 and framed it and hung it on my wall. All the other covers pale when compared to this one. I congratulate you on it.

And now I get to the inside. Amethyst has finally made it back to the Gemworld in person. I say it's about time. She was having to sleep a lot in order to be on the Gemworld during all the crises. So now she's fighting the Ancient Ones for the very existence of the Gemworld, and with a new ally, Prince Garnet. They make a pretty good team. I hope this isn't the last we see of him, since he's gone to collect "rent." I rather like the idea of him as Amethyst's new boyfriend.

Back to Earth, Carl is wondering if "this frivolous girl" really holds the key to his return to the Gemworld. She does, of course, but how is Carl going to use it? He has no magic which he can use to open a portal. And does the amulet hold Dark Opal's spirit or has it suddenly decided to mirror Carl's features? Then at the end Carl decides to take Rita as his consort. What caused this? Earlier she was a frivolous girl. Besides, she just doesn't seem to be his type. And why is the Dark Opal robot smiling?

And now we introduce Miss Gina Tonelli. She bears a remarkable resemblance to Fawn. Is it her? Earth seems to be the only place she could go when she fled Gemworld, but how would she get there? There is also the event of Amethyst taking the other nobles to Earth. Everyone but Garnet is shocked at her transformation into Amy Winston. Turquoise is thinking that it's true that she's a mere child on earth. Where did she hear it in the first place? I never saw Amethyst talking of her childhood to any but Citrina. Topaz is pretty surprised too, even though Amethyst told him of her life on Earth. Garnet is the only one that manages to keep a calm appearance. Marion Winston is also pretty surprised to walk into her daughter's room and have swords pointed at her, get hasty introductions, and then be left alone again. No wonder she dropped the groceries.

Finally they get to the nameless dimension of the Ancient Ones. Then lo and behold, the sun talks to Amethyst. To quote Garnet, "This is a most remarkable development!" I think it's interesting that a sun would have a consciousness. It also addresses Amethyst by her proper title. Does it know all that happens in the Gemworld? Could it be the new historian for the Gemworld? Amethyst's idea for rent is a novel idea.

Will Garnet return to the Gemworld in order to collect "rent," or has it already been collected and how often will it be collected? Or have the Ancient Ones really accepted Amethyst's offer? Garnet seems to hold an affection for Amethyst and I still hope they get together. Please don't drop his character. By the way, will Marion and Herb Winston ever visit the Gemworld? I think it would be an interesting story line. When will Amethyst get any new costumes? She isn't really a super-hero, she shouldn't wear the same costume all the time. Variations on the original would be nice.

One last thing. What happened to the baby that Marion Winston "lost"? How did it die? Or did it? Is Carnelian really their true son? Was their baby the one stolen by Dark Opal's agent? All in all I really enjoyed this issue of AMETHYST. I truly hope that all the following issues and covers can be as breathtaking as this one.

Sincerely yours,

Barbara Shell  
710 North Victor  
Tulsa, OK 74110

Wow! So many questions, Barbara, but I think we only have space to answer a few. The Gemworld's ruling class all know of Amethyst's unusual "double" life. Lady Turquoise was one of her closest friends in the maxi-series, before all this Topaz stuff happened, so she surely would be aware of Amy's life, moreso than the others.

And on the subject of the Winston's "lost" baby... Marion's child was stillborn, and Citrina whisked in the baby Amethyst right in the hospital's delivery room. Nothing has ever been down with Carnelian's real parents and background (he's certainly not the Winston's son), but perhaps it's time to tackle that area soon.

That's all for now this time around, folks. Be sure to look for us in two months and hopefully if we can get our sales back up soon, we'll be monthly again. So, spread the AMETHYST word around, people, 'cause we'd love to bring you as many exciting adventures as we can!

NEXT: The blighting of the Gemworld rages on, as new villains enter the scene! Take care, everyone—Karen.

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